TESTIMONY OF Anthony White

IN SUPPORT OF SB 842, AN ACT CONCERNING FOSTER CHILDREN AND THE DESIGNATION OF SURROGATE PARENTS AND HB 5658, AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATIONAL SURROGATES, THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM AND CHILDREN REQUIRING SPECIAL EDUCATION

Committee on Children February 17, 2015

Submitted by AnthonyWhite

Senator Bar to lo meo, Representative Urban, Distinguished Members of the Committee on Children:

I submit this testimony in support of SB 842 and HB 5658. I am Anthony White, I am 16 years old and I go to IPP school in Stratford. I am in Special Education and live with foster parents.

I have an educational surrogate. She has helped me by looking for a school for me that was close to my home town so I didn't have to ride a bus all day. Since I have been at IPP my reading, writing, and math have improved. She kept the ball rolling and she made sure when I got to the school I would feel comfortable. She advocated for me to get into classes and to get out of classes that were not a good fit.

I think that kids in the juvenile justice system who have special education needs would benefit from a surrogate, because being in a good school program could make you feel like you can achieve in life.